THE ULTIMATE UNDERSTANDING

The new-born baby seeks its mother's breast instinctively — for "happiness".

For the schoolboy, "happiness" means success in the classroom and success on the playing-field.

The adult pursues pleasures in the mistaken belief that he is pursuing "happiness". This leads to a frustrated life and a frustrated death.

A few lucky people, God's favourites, at some stage of their lives realize that pleasures have not brought them the "happiness" they were seeking. They realize that in daily living pleasures, whatever the variety and intensity, cannot bring real happiness.

The realization gets finalized in the knowledge that the true "happiness" must lie not in the pursuit of pleasure in life, but in their attitude to life, in their attitude towards the 'other'.

This realization extends to the conclusion that the true "happiness" can ultimately lie only in a totally harmonious attitude towards the 'other', and more importantly, that in daily living the only way the harmony can prevail is the total acceptance that everything in the world is a happening according to God's Will or Cosmic Law, and that the human being is incapable of doing any deed. The total acceptance of non-doership — both for the 'me' and the 'other' — means the disappearance of the load of hatred which

every human being carries : the load of hatred for oneself for hunting others and the bigger load of hatred for others for hunting ~~me~~ 'me'.

The disappearance of this load of hatred based on ownership means happiness through peace of mind — Sukha-Shanti. This state may be called "enlightenment" for the ego.

The individual entity, the "ego", is the identification of the Impersonal Consciousness, the source, with a particular name and form : a particular body-mind organism and its name. Every ego is thus connected to the source, the Impersonal Consciousness, as identified consciousness. This connection gets broken everytime the ego condemns anyone for anything, either himself or the others. Every break in connection means suffering through hatred — both for oneself and for the other.

The total acceptance of non-ownership for every ego — enlightenment — means that the connection of the concerned ego with the Impersonal Consciousness never gets broken, whether there is pleasure or pain in the moment.

The state of ultimate understanding, beyond enlightenment, is the realization that the Impersonal Consciousness — I Am — arises only with the creation of manifestation. Before manifestation occurred, the state was obviously non-manifestation — NOTHINGNESS or EMPTINESS : no creation, no dissolution.

According to the Heart Sutra: "form is emptiness and emptiness is form." As the famous physicist Albert Einstein has put it: "Everything is emptiness, and form is condensed emptiness."